

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, line 5, with the following:

A4

Yet still another aspect of the present invention is a group forming apparatus, wherein said apparatus further comprises:

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, line 1, with the following:

A5

Still yet another aspect of the present invention is a group forming apparatus, wherein said apparatus further comprises monitoring means of monitoring plural sets of information which are posted to the group from the user belonging to the group, and

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, line 16, with the following:

A6

A further aspect of the present invention is a group forming apparatus, wherein said apparatus further comprises:

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 11, with the following:

A7

A still further aspect of the present invention is a group forming method comprising:

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, line 1, with the following:

A8

A yet further aspect of the present invention is a group forming method, wherein, in said accumulating step, also information related to the classified groups is accumulated, and

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, line 8, with the following:

A9 A still yet further aspect of the present invention is a group forming method comprising:

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, line 14, with the following:

A10 An additional aspect of the present invention is a group forming method comprising:

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, line 7, with the following:

A11 A still additional aspect of the present invention is a group forming method comprising:

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, line 1, with the following:

A12 A yet additional aspect of the present invention is a group forming method, wherein the provision of the provided information on the basis of the predetermined criterion includes the steps of: on the basis of at least one of personal information and preference information of a user belonging to the group, judging whether the user has known the keyword or not; and, if it is judged that the user has not yet known the keyword, providing the provided information.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, line 15, with the following:

A13 A still yet additional aspect of the present invention is a group forming method comprising:

Please replace the paragraph at page 13, line 5, with the following:

A14 A supplementary aspect of the present invention is a group forming method comprising the steps of:

Please replace the paragraph at page 13, line 22, with the following:

A15

A still supplementary aspect of the present invention is a group forming method, wherein the history of posted information is stored in the form of a pair of keyword and the number of postings of the keyword.

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, line 1, with the following:

A16

A yet supplementary aspect of the present invention is a group forming method, wherein the condition is a keyword and a lower limit of the number of postings of the keyword to the group.

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, line 11, with the following:

A17

A still yet supplementary aspect of the present invention is a program for causing a computer to function as a whole or a part of said accumulating means, said classifying means, and said determining and notifying means of said group forming apparatus.

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, line 16, with the following:

A18

Another aspect of the present invention is a program for causing a computer to perform a whole or a part of said steps of said group forming method.

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, line 20, with the following:

A19

Still another aspect of the present invention is a medium which carries a program for causing a computer to function as a whole or a part of said accumulating means, said classifying means, and said determining and notifying means of said group forming apparatus, said medium being processable by a computer.

Please replace the paragraph at page 15, line 1, with the following:

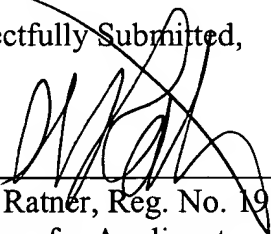
A20
Cm't

Yet still another aspect of the present invention is a medium which carries a program for causing a computer to perform a whole or a part of said steps of said

A20
cmld

group forming method according to any one of, said medium being processable by a computer.

Respectfully Submitted,


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AR/ebf

Enclosure: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Dated: November 21, 2001

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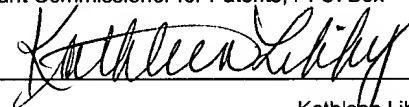
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